

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : Please, this is not the way. You cannot ask like this. You must follow certain rules.

[Translation]

SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM: You have asked about Mumbai first. I thought that a doctor changes his opinion about the patient. I have felt it for the first time that engineers also change their opinion. When I received the report of General Sheikh Committee, I asked on which Technical basis that was constructed? The former Chairman who was also a technical member had said that the construction of Tower would not harm anything because that was built on international specifications. Therefore, I stated on the day when General Sheikh Committee Report was presented that 1432 runways should be suspended. Most of the landings have 0.05 per cent danger. There is no danger in take off. I stated that I had appointed a task force to monitor all this aspect as to whether danger is there or not and will find out the ways as to how this problem can be solved. I am glad to know that your son is a pilot. You can see the report of either Singapore or of any other place. A tower of the height of 150 ft. was needed at Anstedam but the present tower is 330 ft. high. It means that it is 180 ft. excess then the required height. Likewise, a tower of 150 ft. in height was needed in Paris but the present tower is of 260 ft. height. I am looking into the matter. Technicians have opined differently. One engineer has said that to be right. The Second says that it should not be there. I am considering both the opinions and trying to find out a solution. So far as leading is concerned, landing has been suspended in runway No. 1432.

[English]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while on the question of air safety, may I know from the hon. Minister whether it is true that most of the airlines operating in India including the national carrier, namely, Air India and the domestic airline, the Indian Airlines have not yet fully complied with the Director-General Civil Aviation's directive to have S-mode transponders installed on all the aircrafts? The need for such air traffic control was acutely felt after the mid-air collision over Charkhi Dadri in November, 1996.

And even after that, more than once, mid-air collisions were averted at the last moment. Will the hon. Minister assure us a firm deadline by which time the equipment would be installed in all the aircraft, thus not exposing the lives of the passengers to danger?

SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : Sir, after this collision, I have order that S-mode facilities should be incorporated in all the flights if the Indian Airlines by December, 1997 and in the Air India by June 1997.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : What about the Alliance Airlines and Boeings?

SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : It will be in all the airlines and the Alliance is a part of that.

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Are the lives of the passengers going to be in danger till then?

SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM : Please do not have notion. All safety measures are there. S-mode's function is different. Inside the flight, you can sit and come to know as to which flight is coming in what direction, at what height and how many miles it is away. All other systems are there, and this is an extra precautionary measure. We are going to have this system because even if the ground system fails, this system works.

#### Formulation of New Tourism Policy

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\* 265. SHRI VIJAY PATEL :  
SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI  
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated new tourism policy to ensure integrated development of tourism and hotels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to include tourism in the infrastructure sector and view it as an industry to attract investment for rapid development and employment;

(d) if so, whether the gross out put of tourism is likely to be increased by 50 percent and is likely to create 80 lakh jobs directly by the end of next decade;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the new tourist circuit added under the Tourism policy;

(g) whether the Government of Gujarat has prepared a master plan for the infrastructural development of Kutch Distt. for promotion of tourism in the area; and

(h) if so, the funds provided by the Union Government during the years 1995-96, 1996-97 and proposed to be provided during 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) & (b) The Department of Tourism has prepared a National Strategy for the development of tourism identifying the specific activities to be taken up by different agencies including the State Governments, financial institutions and the private sector for the development of tourism during Ninth Plan period.

(c) Tourism has been accorded the status of an industry and various incentives are being made available both by the Central Government and State Governments.

(d) and (e) The Department of Tourism has not made any projections of gross output. However, projections of employment has been made for the year 2000-2001 as 14.17 million based on a foreign tourist arrival target of 5 million by that year

(f) The Department of Tourism has identified 18 circuits and 8 destinations for intensive development of tourism infrastructure.

(g) and (h) The Government of Gujarat has prepared a Master Plan and Area Development Plan for Tourism in the State which has identified Kutch as one of the areas for infrastructural development. During 95-96, Rs. 7.98 lakhs was sanctioned to Government of Gujarat. In 96-97 eight projects amounting to Rs. 91.08 lakhs have been identified in consultation with the State Governments. Proposals for 1997-98 have not yet been finalised.

SHRI VIJAY PATEL : Sir the hon. Minister has said that the Government of Gujarat has prepared an Area Development Plan for Tourism in the State, like Kutch, coastal areas of Saurashtra and other prominent pilgrim centres. The State Government has also submitted proposals to the Central Government amounting to Rs. 150 lakh. The Central component is Rs. 126 lakh. I would like to know whether the Central Government has released the said amount to the State Government; if yes, when and how much, and if not, why.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Sir, in consultation with the State Government, we have identified projects amounting to Rs. 91.08 lakh. I am not in a position to give the exact amount that has been released so far. But I can give that information later because money will be released up to 31st March.

SHRI VIJAY PATEL : It is learnt that tourism is the second largest foreign exchange earning industry and it has the capacity to double its earnings. So, what incentive is being provided by the Government to achieve the same?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The hon. Member is correct that tourism is the second largest foreign exchange earner in the country. During 1996, Rs 10,061 crore was the foreign exchange earning from this sector. Various incentives are being made available both by the Central Government and the State Governments. The State Governments have different tourism policies, and the Central Government also gives certain incentives. As per these incentives, the industry, tour operators and the hoteliers used to get those benefits.

It is a long one. I can give the incentive package that has already been given to this sector itself. But the new policy is being formulated. I am sure, the draft of new policy of the tourism sector is now ready. It can be circulated soon

to all the hon. Members. The hon. Members can suggest what improvement can be made in the new policy itself .... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : That is very good. The new draft policy will be circulated to all the Members of Parliament. Then, you can give suggestion. That is what the hon. Minister has said. What else can you get out of this question?

.....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is on policy. There cannot be a different one.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my constituency, Junagarh has great significance from religious and historical view point when Mahashivratri festival is organised seven or eight lakh people gather there. Likewise, Nili parikrama Dev, which has its own significance is organised on Diwali day and on that occasion also five or seven lakh people assemble there. It has been stated that tourism now enjoys the status of industry and foreign exchange would be earned and moreover better facilities would be provided to the foreign tourists. I want to know the Government are contemplating to telecast live the fair and Nili parikrama organised in Junagadh so as to provide greater importance to tourism as you have stated that it should be discussed separately. It has been stated in part (b) of the question that Gujarat has the largest number of buildings with architectural beauty be it Damodar Kund, Girnar Mountain or Asiatic Lions. When Scindia ji was tourism minister, I had suggested him to develop Junagadh as tourist resort to attract more tourists and to earn foreign exchange. Whether Rs. 82 crore would be sanctioned for the project of Junagadh submitted by Gujarat Government?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : So far as the matter of Junagadh is concerned, it has been identified by State Government to declare it as a state level fair. If state Government submits proposal to this effect, the Union Government would consider over it certainly.

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has offered to circulate the draft policy. He cannot do better than that. He is soliciting your opinions on that. I only want to know by what time you will be able to circulate the new policy.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The draft policy is almost ready. To give a final touch, it will take another 7-8 days' time. After that, I will circulate it .....(Interruptions)

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Sir, the time at their disposal is very short .....(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has said that the draft policy will be circulated in seven days' time. Please go

through the policy very carefully and give your valuable suggestions.

**Norms for rating Sponsored Programmes of Doordarshan**

\*266. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for rating the sponsored programmes of Doordarshan;

(b) whether complaints have been received regarding violation of the criteria; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) The tariff structure of sponsored programmes is determined by a combination of factors including time and day of telecast, contents and popularity of the programme, demands of the sponsoring agency and reach of the channel/network.

(b) and (c) As per information available in Doordarshan, while no complaints as such have been received regarding violation of the criteria for ratings of the sponsored programmes, the Comptroller & Auditor General has raised certain objections over the fixation of sponsorship fee, grant of Free Commercial Time and Spot-buy rates in case of a few programmes. In all such cases, deviation in one or more of these three factors was made by Doordarshan so as to make sponsorship of the said programmes attractive and viable, which also enabled Doordarshan to earn higher revenues.

DR. M. JAGANNATH : Sir, the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament has asked Doordarshan to explain the criterion for rating its sponsored programmes following complaints that it has been twisting its own rules to favour certain private producers like the NDTV which telecast the "News This Weeks" Programme incurring huge losses in the process. In his reply, the hon. Minister has said that the tariff structure of sponsored programmes is determined by a combination of factors including time and day of telecast, contents and popularity of the programme, demands of the sponsoring agency and reach of the channel/network.

The Doordarshan itself has said that the categorisation of NDTV is 'A' category which required 'B' category. Due to this, a loss of Rs. 352 lakh was incurred by the Doordarshan. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what was the specific reason for not giving 'B' categorisation to NDTV. Why was the NDTV given 'A' category?

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Sir, the Public Accounts Committee is making an inquiry about it. Once the report comes, whatever the Committee gives its opinion, the Ministry definitely will look into it.

DR. M. JAGANNATH : But there was a loss of Rs. 352 lakh to the Doordarshan. The sponsored programmes should be profit-oriented.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : The hon. Member, in his Question itself, has said that the Public Accounts Committee is looking into it. I have not still received the report. Once the report comes then I can comment on that.

DR. M. JAGANNATH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that there were some objections in the CAG's report. So, I would like to know what were the objections from the CAG. In his reply, the hon. Minister has said that the programme is to enable the Doordarshan to earn higher revenue, etc. But the reverse has happened in this case. The Doordarshan is incurring a loss of Rs. 352 lakh. Instead of earning higher revenue, it has caused a loss of Rs. 352 lakh. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister, what action the Information and Broadcasting Ministry proposes to take against those who have flouted the rules.

SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM : Sir, the Doordarshan is a huge Department. The hon. Member has asked whether any complaint has been received. The number of minor complaints is more.

He has referred to the Auditor General's report.

[Translation]

The Accountant General of India has expressed his views on certain programmes being aired presently, such as Bible ki Kahaniyan, Surkhiyan, Chitrahah, Sri Krishna, Nazare, Ajnabi, would lines world lines week, Chandrakanta.

Detailed enquiry is being conducted in this regard and after the completion of this enquiry we would look into it.

[English]

We are looking into this matter.

[Translation]

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : I would like to say that though so much attention has been given to Doordarshan in the country, the All India Radio has been overlooked completely particularly the remote areas such as dry area, Leh or some tribal areas. I would like to know from hon'ble minister specifically whether any steps have been taken for popularising these stations and ensure that culture and language of these areas can be flourished and people are made aware about their style of living. At present programmes being telecast are worthless. Able officers do